

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DAMASC 01486 051233Z  
ACTION DHA-02

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 L-03 H-01 PM-04 NSC-05  
SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 AID-05 IGA-02 PA-01  
PRS-01 TRSE-00 OMB-01 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 /060 W  
-----051235 042155 /22

O 051215Z MAR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2056

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 1486

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: SHUM  
SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT TO CONGRESS

REF: STATE 46674

1. IN REVIEWING HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT ON SYRIA TO BE  
PRESENTED TO CONGRESS WE HAVE NOTED SEVERAL MINOR  
POINTS WHICH DEPARTMENT IN ITS DISCRETION MAY WISH  
TO NOTE BEFORE HEARING.

2. STATEMENT IN REPORT THAT JEWS ARE NO LONGER  
REQUIRED TO HAVE THEIR RELIGION STAMPED PROMINENTLY  
ON THEIR SYRIAN IDENTITY CARDS IS TRUE BUT MISLEAD-  
ING IN THAT IT SUGGESTS THAT SYRIAN JEWS' RELIGION  
NO LONGER APPEARS ON IDENTITY CARDS. THIS IS NOT  
THE CASE FOR BULK OF COMMUNITY (DAMASCUS 234).

3. REPORT STATES "IN THE CASE OF JEWISH NON-  
RETURNEES" POSTED BONDS WOULD BE FORFEITED FOR NON-  
RETURN. IN FACT, THIS WOULD BE THE CASE FOR ANY  
NON-RETURNEE WHO HAD BEEN REQUIRED TO POST BOND.

4. OUR CONTINUING RESEARCH INTO REGULATIONS AFFECTING  
THE SYRIAN JEWISH COMMUNITY HAS UNCOVERED UNCERTAIN-  
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TIES REGARDING WHETHER "UNMARRIED JEWISH WOMEN CAN APPLY TO  
MARRY DESIGNATED FOREIGNERS AND OBTAIN PASSPORTS TO  
JOIN THEIR FIANCES ABROAD." COMMUNITY LEADERS  
BELIEVE THAT MARRIAGE CEREMONY WOULD HAVE TO BE PER-  
FORMED IN SYRIA BUT ADMIT THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO CASE  
AS YET TO TEST APPLICATION OF THIS REGULATION.  
MURPHY

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** HUMAN RIGHTS, REPORTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977DAMASC01486  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770076-1024  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
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22 May 2009  
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